No Fly Zones

2680. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of 'No Fly Zones' in the country at present;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to declare some places as 'No Fly Zone' areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The Tower of Silence at the Malabar Hill, Mumbai, Nuclear Power Plant at Tarapur, Aviation Research Centre, Bhubaneswar, Rashtrapati Bhawan, Delhi and Mathura Oil Reinery are presently declared as 'No Fly Zones'.

(b) and (c) Proposals are received from time to time to declare various places as 'No Fly Zones'. Decisions on these proposals are taken keeping in view the relevant security considerations.

Operation of Haj Flights

2681. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the date by when the flights for ferrying Haj pilgrims will be started this year;

(b) the number of Haj pilgrims expected to go on pilgrimage this year; and

(c) the details of places from where Haj flights will originate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Haj flights are scheduled to start from 4th January, 2003.

(b) Approximately 72,000 pilgrims are expected to undertake Haj pilgrimage in 2003.

(c) Haj flights will be operated from Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Kozhikode, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Nagpur, Gaya (to connect over Kolkata) and Srinagar.